**Thailand Population Change Information**

**Description of Situation:**

* Before the 1970s Thailands population was increasing dramatically. With each women often having more than 5 or 6 children.
* The government realized that this rate of population growth would not remain sustainable and implemented strict population control measures throughout the country.
* They therefore became *Anti-Natalist*

(2)

**Actions from the Government:**

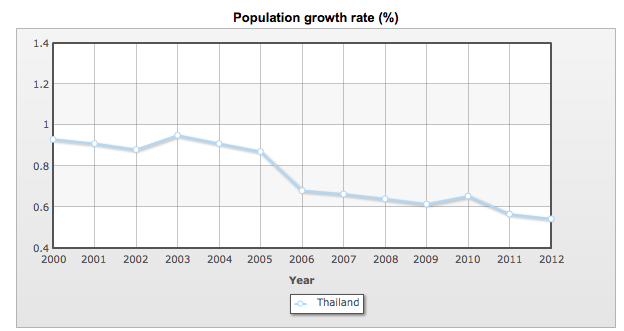
* After 1971 a program for population control was created to allow Thailands population to stabilize and remain sustainable.
* This included a government-supported family planning program which increases women's rights, working possibilities, better health care and opportunities for birth control
* Vasectomies and abortions were legalized allowing special clinics to open throughout the country.
* Thailand also began to try and reduce the amount of teen pregnancies in the country and stopped schools from expelling teens that became pregnant.
* This included providing sexual education and counseling as well as providing contraception.

(1)

**Evaluation of Success:**

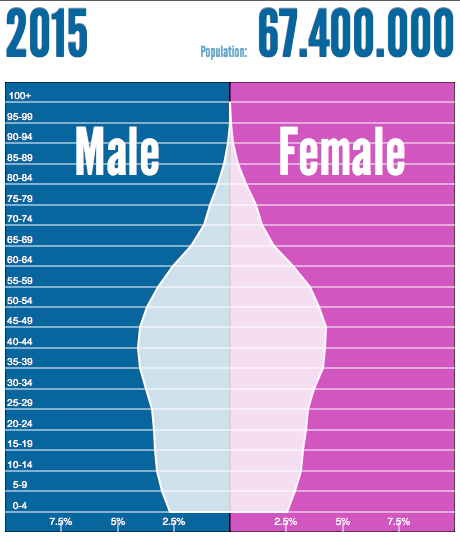
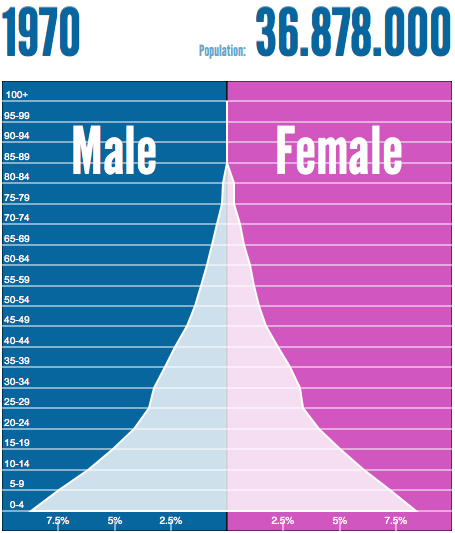
* Since launching their population policies in 1971, the rate of population growth has dropped by 50% decreasing from 3.2 to 1.6 percent.
* Thailand has dropped its population size and rate of increase quickly and substantially, largely due to its family planning approaches.

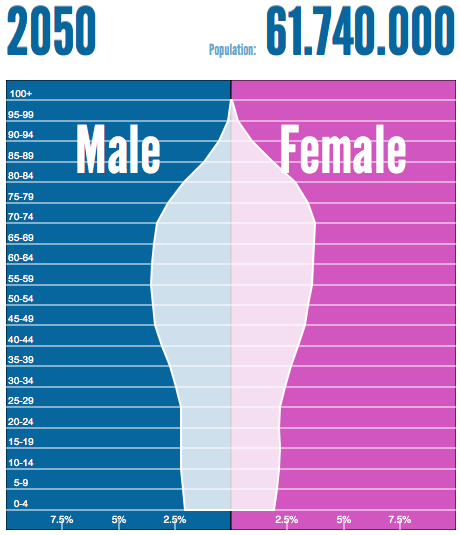
(2)



(3)

**Population Pyramids:**

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(4)

1. <http://www.lenntech.com/population-growth-and-environment.htm>
2. <http://www.context.org/iclib/ic31/frazer/>
3. <http://www.indexmundi.com/g/g.aspx?c=th&v=24>
4. <http://populationpyramid.net/thailand/2015/>
5. <http://coolgeography.co.uk/A-level/AQA/Year%2012/Population/Pop%20Pyramids/Population%20Pyramids.htm>

**France Population Change Information**

***Policies: Encourage three-children families***

Cash wise:

* a cash incentive of £675 monthly (nearly the minimum wage) for a mother to stay off work for one year following the birth of her third child
* Three years paid parental leave, which can be used by mothers or fathers

Tax wise:

* Income tax based on the more children the less tax to pay
* Full tax benefits to parents until the youngest child reaches 18

Privilege wise:

* The 'carte famille nombreuse' (large family card), giving large reductions on train fares
* 100% mortgage and preferential treatment in the allocation of 3 bedroomed council flats
* Child-orientated development policies
* Government subsidised daycare for children under the age of three, and full time school places for over threes paid for by the government
* 30% fare reduction on all public transport for 3 child families

***Describe why the country needs to change population and whether they are trying to increase or decrease the population. State whether your country is pro-natalist or anti-natalist***

Low population is caused by:

* **Education** - people are more aware of the availability of contraception and consequences an unplanned pregnancy can have on their career
* **Women in careers** - France is particularly concerned with the fact that an increased proportion of women are choosing career over children and that the population would not be able to replace itself over time. (Currently, 81% of women in France are employed)
* **Later marriages**
* **State benefits** - couples no longer need children to help care for them when older

**Old Age support Issue:**

Over 21% of France’s population is over 60, it’s predicted that by 2050, ⅓ of the population will be over 60.

French government €12.9 billion to pay for the social security & health care of the elderly

Comparison of support program for elderlies 65+:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1901 | 7.8 aged 15-64 | 1 aged 65+ |
| 1950 | 5.8 aged 15-64 | 1 aged 65+ |
| 1995 | 4.4 aged 15-64 | 1 aged 65+ |

Problem: Unsustainable population in the future with decreased support ratio + raising costs for elderly care

Recently, the French government announced plans to raise the retirement age from 60 to 62 (by 2018) in an attempt to increase the support ratio by reducing the number of people who are classed as elderly. In addition to the increased retirement age, people will need to work 41.5 years in 2020 to claim a full pension versus the 40.5 years they must work now.

***Evaluation of The Specific Actions***

Cons:

* Complex and not always consistent
  + More than 30 measures (not easy to evaluate)
  + Means-tested benefits (for social redistribution),   
    but also tax cuts (*quotient familial*, tax-splitting system")
  + Still wavering between extra support to the 3rd child   
    and benefits from the 1st child

More feministic then familistic (family based)

* + No need to be married; no need to stay home
  + Strong support to the one-parent families

Pros:

* Consensual and politically neutral
  + Unquestioned in the last electoral debates
  + Confirmed every year by *la Conférence de la famille*
  + A 60-year continuity that inspires confidence in the population

***Discuss where on the demographic transition model your country falls and give evidence to support this.***

Stage 4

* No population growth
* Low death & birth rate
* Women are educated
* People replace themselves
* Technology Birth control

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/geography/population/managing_population_rev5.shtml>

<http://geographyas.info/population/france-pro-natalism/>

<http://vle.caldew.cumbria.sch.uk/pluginfile.php/9248/mod_folder/content/0/france602.ppt?forcedownload=1>

<http://www.slideshare.net/HNurton/france-99335>